

IN THE CLAIMS

CLAIMS

(cancelled) 1. I Claim a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

- a) selecting at least one fryable food product;
- b) compressing the food product into a pellet with a surface and an interior;
- c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance.

(cancelled) 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enclosing the food product in a partially breathable cover.

(cancelled) 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the breathable cover is polyester.

(cancelled) 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the polyester is of a thickness between 70-100 gauge.

(cancelled) 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the food product is comprised of flour and starch.

(cancelled) 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the product further comprises water.

(cancelled) 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the flour is from a group consisting of potato, wheat, corn, bran, rice or combinations thereof.

(cancelled) 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of selecting at least one flavoring and combining at least a portion of the pellet with said flavoring. (and wherein the flavoring is finely ground or concentrated)

(cancelled) 9. The invention of claim 1 wherein the step of compression comprises grinding the food product into a paste and mixing with moisture

(cancelled) 10. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of routing comprises coating the pellet with oil.

(cancelled) 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of separating the pellets and microwaving the separated pellets.

(Cancelled) 12. The method of claim 1 further comprising packaging a plurality of pellets, comprised of at least one first pellet and at least one second pellet in a microwavable container having a top and a bottom layer of heat resistant plastic.

(cancelled) 13. The method of claim 12 wherein the container allows the passage of air but provides a moisture and heat barrier.

(CURRENTLY amended) 14. I Claim a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

a) selecting at least one fryable food product;

b) compressing the food product into a plurality of pellets expandable to a larger size when microwaved with a surface and an interior;

c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance and further comprising packaging a plurality of said pellets, comprised of at least one first pellet and at least one second pellet in a microwavable container having a top and a bottom layer of heat resistant plastic and wherein the container defines an interior and an exterior and wherein the interior defines a volume and wherein the pellets comprise prior to cooking a volume less than 45% of the volume of the interior and wherein the container provides a separating means for separating the pellets from one another within the interior of the container.

(Currently amended) 15. I Claim the method of claim 14 wherein a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

~~_____~~ a) selecting at least one fryable food product;

~~b) compressing the food product into a pellet with a surface and an interior;~~

~~c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance and further comprising packaging a plurality of pellets, comprised of at least one first pellet and at least one second pellet in a microwavable container having a top and a bottom layer of heat resistant plastic and wherein the container comprises spaces larger than the larger size of the pellets separated by provides a separating means for separating the pellets from one another in the spaces and wherein the separating means comprises at least one seal within the container between at least one pellet and at least one second pellet.~~

(Original) 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the seal is comprised of a fold in the material.

(cancelled) 17. I Claim a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

a) selecting at least one fryable food product;

b) compressing the food product into a pellet with a surface and an interior;

c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance and further comprising packaging a plurality of pellets, comprised of at least one first pellet and at least one second pellet in a microwavable container having a top and a bottom layer of heat resistant plastic and wherein the seal is comprised of an adhesive between the top layer and the bottom layer of the container.

(cancelled) 18. The method of claim 14 wherein the seal comprises at least one baffle extending from the bottom layer toward the top layer.

(cancelled) 19. The method of claim 14 wherein the container further comprises a paper wrapping exterior to the plastic.

(cancelled) 20. I Claim a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

- a) selecting at least one fryable food product;
- b) compressing the food product into a pellet with a surface and an interior;
- c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance and wherein the step of compressing further comprises the step of selecting a shape for the pellet, preparing a an extrusion having an interior corresponding to the shape selected, compressing the pellet within the extrusion.

(cancelled) 21. I Claim a method for producing foods which maybe cooked in the presence of microwave energy comprising the steps of:

- a) selecting at least one fryable food product;
- b) compressing the food product into a pellet with a surface and an interior;
- c) coating at least a portion of the surface with a microwave heatable substance and wherein the step of selecting comprises the step of selecting at least one second food product and coating the at least one second food product and with the at least one food product and wherein the at least one second food product is a non-starch food product.

(cancelled) 22. A microwavable pellet comprised of:

- a) a milled flour;
- b) a milled starch;
- c) an oil coating.

(New Claim) 23. The method of claim 14 wherein the volume of the pellets before microwaving is less than 38% of the volume of the interior.

(New Claim) 24. The method of claim 14 wherein the container further comprises a polyester plaster and comprises a paper wrapping along at least a portion of the exterior

(New Claim) 25. The method of claim 14 wherein the pellets further comprise and expansion means to expand the pellets upon cooking.

(New Claim) 26. The method of claim 25 wherein the expansion means comprises said pellets being made of a friable material and a coating of oil.

(New Claim) 27. The method of claim 26 wherein the expansion means comprises a plurality of air pockets within the pellets.